

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM SECSTATE WASHDC DATED FEBRUARY 20,

1976 SENT COTONOU INFO ABIDJAN IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EINV, PFOR, DM, US

SUBJECT: CHARGE'S MEETING WITH FORMIN ALLADAYE

REFS: (A) COTONOU 304; (B) COTONOU 303; (C) STATE 33068;

(D) ABIDJAN 1568; (E) ABIDJAN 1531

1. DEPT PLEASED MOBIL REGIONAL DIRECTOR HAS MET MINFIN AMDUSSOU. REGARDING CHARGE'S MEETING WITH FORMIN FLLADAYE. WE AGREE THAT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE OF ALLADAYE SIGNIFIES PERMANENT SHIFT OF GPRB ATTITUDE TOWARDS US. WE BELIEVE THE TONE OF YOUR REPLY AS REPORTED REF (A) IS THE RIGHT ONE.

2. IN FURTHER CONTACTS WITH GPRB ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES, EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) DIPLOMATIC CONDUCT. AS DEPSEC INGERSOLL TOLD AMBASSADOR BOYA, USG EXPECTS GPRB'S ASSURANCE THAT IN FUTURE US DIPLOMATS WILL BE TREATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH USUAL DIPLOMATIC NORMS. DOUBTLESS THIS ASSURANCE WILL BE INCLUDE IN BOYA'S REPLY TO DEPSEC.

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B) COMPENSATION FOR MOBIL AND TEXACTO. DEPT HAS VERIFIED WITH US OFFICES MOBIL AND TEXACO THAT GPRB LETTERS WERE RECEIVED BY THEIR ABIDJAN OFFICES. MOBIL DIRECTOR HAS ALREADY VISITED COTONOU, WHILE TEXACO REP FROM ABIDJAN PLANS VISIT BEFORE END OF MONTH. WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE THE GPRB THAT PROMPT MOVEMENT TOWARDS MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION WILL HAVE SALUTARY EFFECT ON HICKEN-LOOPER REVIEW AND US-BENIN RELATIONS GENERALLY.

C) DEMAND THAT EMBASSY EVACUATE CHANCERY COMPOUND. PER REF (C), DEPT POSITION IS THAT GPRB HAS OBLIGATION UNDER VIENNA CONVENTION TO FIND SUITABLE EQUIVALENT QUARTERS FOR US IF WE MUST MOVE OUT OF CHANCERY, AS WELL AS OBLIGATION TO PAY RELOCATION COSTS AND ANY DIFFERENCE IN RENT. WE EXPECT GPRB TO ASSIST IN FINDING NEW QUARTERS, AND TO GRANT US EXTENSION PAST DEADLINE OF OCTOBER 26, IF ACCEPTABLE QUARTERS CANNOT BE READY BY THAT DATE.

D) COTONOU BRIDGE-DAM. IF NECESSARY IN ORDER TO REMOVE ANY POSSIBLE MISCONCEPTION ON PART OF GPRB RE AID INTENTIONS, SUGGEST THAT YOU CONVEY TO GPRB OFFICIALS THAT AID CAN NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT MODIFICATIONS IN PROJECT DESIGN THAT WOULD RESULT IN INCOMPLETE PROJECT AS MEANS OF RESOLVING SHORTFALL IN FUNDING. PER REF (D), WHICH OUTINES REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH BY REDSO FOR GUARANTEE OF SUFFICIENT FUNDING BY GPRB, IMPLICATION IS THAT BEST OPTION AVAILABLE TO GPRB IS URGENT PURSUIT OF ADDITIONAL CAPITAL FINANCING FROM OTHER (NON-AIE) SOURCES. IF THIS MISCONCEPTION NOT EVIDENT ON PART OF GPRB OFFICIALS, SUGGEST THAT YOU FOLLOW REDSO RECOMMENDATION (REF E) TO AVOID ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION OF PROJECT PENDING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH S AND T AND TEER. ALSO SUGGEST THAT YOU NOT IMPLY THAT MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENT ALONE WILL AUTOMATICALLY GUARANTEE CONTINUATION OF BRIDGE PROJECT.

E) UN ISSUES: THERE ARE NO KEY UN ISSUES COMING UP IN THE NEAR FUTURE WHICH DEPT WOULD WISH EMBASSY TO USE AS A TEST CASE FOR BENIN'S PURPORTED CHANGE OF HEART ON CONFIDENTIAL

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UN ISSUES. SUGGEST YOU DO NOT IMPLY THAT WE SHALL BE SATISFIED MERELY BY PROMISES OF COOPERATION IN UN ON ISSUES OF LITTLE SIGNIFICANCE TO GPRB. SUGGEST ALSO THAT YOU NOT BE DRAWN INTO LONG IDSUCCSSION OF ATTITUDES IN UN. YOUR POINT IS GOOD ONE BUT IS BEST MADE BRIEFLY. YOU SHOULD, HOWEVER, MENTION IN YOUR NEXT CONVERSATION WITH ALLADAYE THAT WE HAVE NOTED THAT BENIN WILL BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN MARCH. WE LTOK

FORWARD TO ILOSE COOPERATION WITH BENIN DURING MARCH JUST AS WE HAD WITH TANZANIA. THE LAST AFRICAN PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, IN JANUARY. YOU SHOULD ALSO THAT WE WILL BE TAKING ALLADAYE UP ON HIS OFFER OF CONSULTING EARLY AND IN DEPTH ON KEY UN ISSUES BOTH AT THE 31ST UNGA THIS FALL AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WHERE BENIN IS REPRESENTED AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES ARISE.

3. FYI: WE ARE SURVEYING ENTIRE RANGE OF OPTIONS REGARDING OUR PRESENCE AND ASSISTANCE TO BENIN AND O NOT WISH TO FORECLOSE ANY AT THIS TIME. COTONOU 306 HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED DURING THIS REVIEW. END FYI. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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